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SECOND PROGRESS REPORT OF THE SECRETARY-GENERAL ON THE UNITED NATIONS TRANSITIONAL AUTHORITY IN CAMBODIA

INTRODUCTION

1. On 1 May 1992, I submitted to the Security Council my first progress report on the United Nations Transitional Authority in Cambodia (UNTAC) (S/23870). I subsequently submitted two special reports (S/24090 of 12 June 1992 and S/24286 of 14 July 1992). The first of these led to a statement by the President of the Security Council on 12 June 1992 (S/24091) and the second formed the basis for deliberations by the Council that resulted in the adoption of resolution 766 (1992) of 21 July 1992. The present second progress report is submitted pursuant to paragraph 10 of resolution 745 (1992).

I. PROGRESS MADE TO DATE IN THE IMPLEMENTATION OF RESOLUTIONS 745 (1992) AND 766 (1992) AND TASKS STILL TO BE PERFORMED

A. General

2. UNTAC is now close to full deployment throughout almost the whole territory of Cambodia. However, the continuing refusal of the Party of Democratic Kampuchea (PDK) to grant UNTAC personnel access to the zones it controls or to commit its forces to cantonment as called for in the implementation plan (S/23613) gives grounds for serious concern. As explained in my second special report, PDK has introduced its own interpretations of the provisions of the Paris Agreements relating to the verification of the withdrawal and non-return of foreign forces and to the role and powers of the Supreme National Council (see S/23177, annex). PDK asserts that these provisions have not been implemented and that, until they are, it is not in a position to proceed with the implementation of the other provisions. In line with this assertion, PDK has issued a series of proposals laying down conditions under which it would be prepared to participate fully in the peace process. Although my Special Representative has carefully studied all these proposals with a view to identifying ways of accommodating PDK's concerns, it has not been possible to accept them because they are inconsistent with the Paris Agreements.

3. In other respects, however, the implementation of the mission is proceeding apace. The electoral law was adopted on 5 August 1992. Provisional registration of political parties has begun and preparations are under way for the registration of voters. It is still intended that elections will be held not later than May 1993. The repatriation of refugees and displaced persons is making steady progress; more than 115,000 had returned to Cambodia by 15 September 1992 without serious incident. The progressive installation of United Nations civilian officials in the administrative structures of the three Cambodian parties that are complying with the peace process has enabled UNTAC to establish supervision and control in accordance with its mandate. The work of the human rights and civilian police components has been extended to every province. A number of rehabilitation assistance programmes have been approved by the Supreme National Council.

B. Relations with the Supreme National Council

4. UNTAC continues to enjoy the full cooperation and support of the President of the Supreme National Council, His Royal Highness Prince Norodom Sihanouk. Twelve Council meetings have taken place since my first progress report. At these meetings, on the initiative of UNTAC, the Supreme National Council adopted a number of measures related to various aspects of UNTAC's work, as discussed below.

5. The Supreme National Council continues to function along the lines laid down in the Comprehensive Political Settlement and its relationship with UNTAC has generally been harmonious and productive, despite the constraints resulting from the failure of PDK to participate fully in the peace process. At the Council meeting held on 7 May 1992, Prince Sihanouk and the other members present signed the agreement on the legal status of UNTAC in Cambodia. In accordance with the Paris Agreements, UNTAC has kept the Supreme National Council fully informed about its activities.

C. Human rights component

6. Promotion of a better understanding of and respect for human rights and fundamental freedoms is essential in order to create an environment in which free and fair elections may take place. To achieve this, the component is active in three broad areas. First, it has encouraged the Supreme National Council to adhere to relevant international human rights instruments and has undertaken a review of the existing judicial and penal systems in the light of their provisions. Secondly, it has begun an extensive human rights information and education campaign in close cooperation with the Information/Education Division of UNTAC. Thirdly, it has investigated human rights-related complaints and taken corrective measures where necessary.

7. As of 18 September, human rights officers had been deployed in 15 of the 21 provinces. They will be deployed in three more provinces by 25 September and in the remainder by early October. In addition, two officers had been

deployed in the zones controlled by the United National Front for an Independent, Neutral, Peaceful and Cooperative Cambodia (FUNCINPEC) and the Khmer People's National Liberation Front (KPNLF). The component has not yet been granted access to the zone controlled by PDK.

8. Following the Supreme National Council's ratification, on 20 April 1992, of the International Covenants on Civil and Political Rights and on Economic, Social and Cultural Rights, 1/ it agreed on 10 September to accede to the Convention against Torture and Other Cruel, Inhuman or Degrading Treatment or Punishment; 2/ the International Convention on the Elimination of All Forms of Discrimination against Women; 3/ the Convention on the Rights of the Child; 4/ and the Convention 5/ and Protocol 6/ relating to the Status of Refugees.

9. In order to support indigenous human rights groups, the component has organized training sessions for local organizations, teachers, school administrators and others. It is also planning to organize in Phnom Penh an International Symposium on Human Rights in Cambodia, from 30 November to 1 December 1992.

10. More than 250 complaints of harassment and intimidation, arbitrary arrest, wrongful death, destruction of property and wrongful injury have been filed with the component. One hundred and thirty of these have been referred to other components of UNTAC, 13 have been found to be unsubstantiated, and the remainder have been investigated by the human rights component. In all investigations, the component works closely with the civilian police component.

11. Work has also begun on prison reform, although so far only in the prisons controlled by the Phnom Penh authorities. A Prisons Control Commission has been established and its review led to the release in May of 108 prisoners detained without trial and of an additional 150 such prisoners in August. In addition, the component has provided human rights briefings to UNTAC civilian police officers and United Nations Volunteers.

D. Electoral component

12. The electoral component has deployed some 150 international staff at UNTAC headquarters and in the provinces. An additional 20 are expected to arrive by the end of September. The 400 United Nations Volunteers have been almost fully deployed to the district level, while the deployment of some 1,000 locally recruited staff is also under way.

13. The electoral law, which had been submitted by UNTAC on 1 April 1992, was adopted by the Supreme National Council on 5 August and was promulgated on 12 August. It differs from the draft submitted in April in two respects. Following intensive discussions, it was decided that, in order to meet the concern expressed by the parties that the franchise be restricted to "Cambodian persons", the text of the Paris Agreements should be interpreted as giving the right to register to "every Cambodian person", defined as follows:

(a) A person born in Cambodia, at least one of whose parents was born in Cambodia; or

(b) A person, wherever born, at least one of whose parents is or was a Cambodian person within the meaning of paragraph (a).

14. Secondly, the draft law was amended to permit overseas Cambodians to vote at one polling station in Europe, one in North America and one in Australia. However, registration of voters is still to take place exclusively in Cambodia.

15. The provisional registration of political parties began on 15 August, and 14 organizations have so far expressed interest in registration. UNTAC has prepared the necessary documentation. The electoral law requires UNTAC to guarantee the right of political parties to open offices throughout the country. In discussions with UNTAC, the Phnom Penh authorities have agreed to reverse their policy of not permitting other parties to open offices in areas under their control. On 10 September 1992, my Special Representative informed the Supreme National Council that the electoral regulation giving political parties the right to open offices throughout Cambodia had come into effect. At the same meeting, Mr. Hun Sen announced that parties other than PDK would be allowed to open offices in the areas under the control of his administration. PDK would be allowed to open an office when it granted UNTAC access to its zone.

16. The registration of voters is scheduled to begin in October 1992, as called for in the implementation plan (S/23613). According to the latest population estimates, the voting population appears to be about 5 million, which is somewhat larger than the 4.3 million estimated in the implementation plan. However, UNTAC will make every effort to hold to the planned figure of around 800 registration stations. The other modalities for the electoral process are likely to remain as described in the implementation plan.

17. Uncertainty over PDK's intentions is having an adverse effect on the electoral component's planning. Moreover, it may no longer be possible to make practical arrangements for voter education, training and registration in the PDK-controlled areas if UNTAC gains access to those areas only after the electoral process has reached an advanced stage.

18. The component is currently examining a proposal to hold a presidential election simultaneously with the election for a constituent assembly. Much support for this idea has been voiced by the Cambodian parties and by Prince Sihanouk himself, who take the view that such an election would have a stabilizing effect in the period after the elections. However, a presidential election is not provided for in the Paris Agreements or the implementation plan. It would therefore require Security Council authorization, as well as the provision of additional resources.

E. Military component

19. The UNTAC military component is now almost fully deployed in Cambodia at just below its projected strength of 15,900, with 12 infantry battalions, military observers, engineers, signals, naval, air and other elements, totalling about 15,100 all ranks.

20. The component has established nine checkpoints on Cambodia's border with Viet Nam, two on the border with the Lao People's Democratic Republic and seven on that with Thailand. Checkpoints have also been established at the airports and at the port of Sihanoukville, as well as on major routes within the country. These checkpoints are supplemented by regular patrols with the purpose of discovering and discouraging unauthorized movements of armed persons and weapons, deterring banditry and establishing UNTAC's presence. In accordance with the Paris Agreements, the component is also engaged in investigating cease-fire violations and the possible presence of foreign forces and in locating arms caches.

21. Although cease-fire violations since the first progress report have been minor in nature, the refusal of PDK to allow UNTAC access to its zone and to canton its forces has seriously hampered the military component's operations. There have, in particular, been a number of cases of firing at UNTAC helicopters, most of them from areas believed to be under the control of the armed forces of PDK. My Special Representative and the Force Commander have been in regular contact with the President of PDK and his colleagues in order to seek a solution to these problems, as described in my first and second special reports. On 27 August, a senior PDK spokesman announced that the National Army of Democratic Kampuchea (NADK) was prepared to enter cantonment even before full verification of the withdrawal and non-return of foreign forces, without, however, setting a date for the entry into cantonment. The spokesman also announced NADK's intention to rejoin the Mixed Military Working Group after an absence of some three months. This took place on 17 September and is a positive development.

22. The non-cooperation of PDK has not prevented the military component from beginning the regroupment, cantonment and disarmament of the armed forces of the three factions that are complying with their obligations under the Paris Agreements. By 10 September UNTAC had cantoned more than 50,000 troops, as follows:

Cambodian People's Armed Forces	42 368
National Army of Independent Kampuchea	3 445
Khmer People's National Liberation Armed Forces	6 479
National Army of Democratic Kampuchea	-
Total	52 292

UNTAC has also taken custody of approximately 50,000 weapons.

23. About 38,000 of the cantoned troops have been granted agricultural leave in order to harvest the rice crop after having handed over their weapons and identification cards. All are subject to recall at two weeks' notice to ensure 100 per cent cantonment before the process of formal demobilization begins.

24. The component continues to train members of the Cambodian parties in mine-clearance. Eleven mine-clearance training centres have been established and some 850 soldiers have now been fully trained. The length of each training course has been doubled from two to four weeks for safety reasons. No casualties have been sustained by the trainees. About 350 are currently employed by UNTAC in mine-clearance activities, especially those directly supporting the repatriation and rehabilitation programmes and those required in connection with the continued establishment of the UNTAC infrastructure. For instance, an area of some 22,000 square metres, east of route 69 in sector 2, has been cleared of more than 1,000 mines.

F. Civil administration component

25. UNTAC's civil administration activities are governed by the Paris Agreements and the implementation plan, as well as being guided by the proposal for discussion ("non-paper") drawn up by participants in the Tokyo Ministerial Conference on the Rehabilitation and Reconstruction of Cambodia (see S/24286, annex).

26. Over 800 members of the civil administration component - some 200 international and 600 locally recruited staff - have been deployed. Like the other components of UNTAC, civil administration personnel have so far been denied access to the PDK-controlled areas. However, the component has drawn up a plan for control of the PDK administrative structures that can be implemented as soon as UNTAC gains access to them. Contact has been established with the administrations of two other Cambodian parties, FUNCINPEC and KPNLF, and civilian controllers were sent to their zones at the end of August. However, most of the civil administration personnel have been deployed in the administrative structures of the Phnom Penh authorities.

27. The goal of direct control is to ensure a neutral environment permitting the holding of free and fair elections. To meet this goal in operational terms, the civil administration component is using three complementary means of control: control a posteriori, control a priori and appraisal. Control a posteriori is achieved through the receipt of all documentation dealing with the operation of the existing administrative structures, including the lines of decision-making, personnel policies and matériel questions. Control a priori is achieved through the component's authority to obtain prior knowledge of all decisions reached by the structures, as well as the authority to change decisions dealing, for instance, with personnel, finance and the sale of assets. Control by appraisal is achieved through the proposal of improvements in the operations of the existing administrative structures. On a day-to-day basis, these three means of direct control are exercised in

various ways, including the physical presence of civil administration personnel alongside their highest-ranking counterparts in the existing administrative structures, weekly meetings between UNTAC staff and these individuals and the establishment of clear lines of decision-making so that civil administration personnel can exert a priori control over decisions.

28. In accordance with paragraphs 102 and 103 of the implementation plan, the civil administration component asked each of the four Cambodian parties to submit a list of their current laws for review by UNTAC. With the exception of PDK, all parties complied. At the initiative of UNTAC, the Supreme National Council, at its meetings on 20 April and 5 June 1992, adopted laws enshrining the rights of freedom of association and of assembly. At its meeting on 10 September, the Supreme National Council also approved a set of principles relating to the legal system, penal law and penal procedure. The object of these was to establish uniform standards for the judiciary and for substantive law that would be applicable throughout Cambodia and would be in accordance with instruments adopted by the United Nations.

29. On 1 July 1992, the civil administration component began to exercise full control over the five key areas in the Phnom Penh administration, as specified in the Paris Agreements: foreign affairs, national defence, public security, finance and information. In Phnom Penh, between one and three civil administration personnel are currently deployed in the ministries of defence, national security, foreign affairs, consular affairs and finance and in the national bank. By 15 July, UNTAC civil administration offices had been established in all 21 provinces. At the present time there are approximately 95 international staff in the Phnom Penh office and 123 in the provinces. In addition, in accordance with annex 1, section B, paragraphs 2 and 3 of the Agreements, UNTAC has established optional control over a number of areas that have been identified as having some direct influence over the outcome of the elections.

1. Civil administration activities in Phnom Penh

(a) Foreign affairs

30. Paragraph 10 of the Proposal for Discussion states:

> "After consultation with the Supreme National Council ..., UNTAC, through its civil administration control, will supervise the issuance of visas to all foreigners seeking to enter any part of Cambodian territory. The Supreme National Council shall consider the issue of a uniform stamp, in the name of the Supreme National Council, to validate on request passports, travel documents and identity cards of Cambodians."

31. UNTAC has now established a seven-day-a-week presence at Pochentong International Airport, Phnom Penh, in order to help to resolve any immigration problems that may arise there. The civil administration component's Foreign Affairs Service has also proposed to the Phnom Penh authorities that the requirement for exit visas for Cambodians be abolished. The proposal is being considered. UNTAC has also provided Prince Sihanouk and his household, as well as the members and secretariat of the Supreme National Council, with Supreme National Council passports.

32. In addition, the component has assumed control over the receipt and distribution of foreign aid. This involves not only supervision of the relevant officials in the foreign ministry, but also officials of administrative bodies and agencies operating in this area, such as the "Comité de Réception de l'Aide Humanitaire" and the "Cambodian Red Cross".

(b) National defence

33. Officials of the component's Defence Service have inspected the Phnom Penh administrative structure dealing with defence and plan shortly to visit the FUNCINPEC and KPNLF structures. Their inspections and inquiries have revealed a high level of political activity by the Cambodian People's Party (CPP) within the armed forces of the Phnom Penh authorities. Measures are being developed to limit this activity. As of 1 September, the Service was fully staffed; periodic inspections are now being replaced by full-time and direct control over decisions. The Service has also requested that an inventory of assets be prepared.

(c) Public security

34. The exercise of control over public security, in collaboration with the civilian police and human rights components, has reached an advanced stage. In addition to compiling all existing laws and modifying those found to be incompatible with the Paris Agreements, the Public Security Service has drafted codes of conduct. The Public Security Working Group, which comprises representatives of the four parties under UNTAC chairmanship, meets twice a month.

(d) Finance

35. Direct control over this field was instituted on 1 July 1992 and was fully established in the first part of September. As regards the Phnom Penh authorities, financial controllers are present in each of the ministries, in the National Bank of Cambodia and, with six exceptions that will soon be corrected, in all provincial administrations. Specific mechanisms are in place, which enable UNTAC to examine and approve individual expenditure items. Emphasis is also being given to the most important sources of revenue, such as customs duties. As regards FUNCINPEC and KPNLF, control of expenditure and revenue is being exercised. No control can at present be exercised over PDK.

(e) Information

36. The Director of the Information/Education Division has established a working group composed of representatives of the Cambodian parties and the media in order to keep them involved in, and informed of, the actions UNTAC is taking to exercise direct control in the field of information. The Division has presented the working group with a draft media charter, which was prepared in cooperation with the human rights component. The aim of the charter is to lay down principles for the exercise of freedom of the press and of the rights and obligations of media organizations and administrative agencies, bodies and offices operating in the field of information, especially in the context of elections. Measures to ensure fair access to the media, in accordance with the Paris Agreements, will be a priority matter for discussion in the media working group. The Information Director has also visited the radio stations and press facilities of three of the four parties, the exception being PDK.

(f) Inquiries and complaints

37. In keeping with its mandate (see S/23613, para. 108), the civil administration component has also established an Inquiries and Complaints Service, which works in close collaboration with the civilian police, electoral and human rights components. The Service has already taken up some 50 complaints.

(g) Optional control

38. On 26 May the Supreme National Council agreed to an UNTAC proposal to identify, in addition to the five areas specified in the Paris Agreements, administrative agencies, bodies and offices which could directly influence the outcome of the elections and which should therefore be placed under the direct supervision or control of UNTAC. This was done in accordance with annex 1, section B, paragraph 2, of the Paris Agreements. It was agreed that the organs in question should be those dealing with public health, education, agriculture, maritime and riverine fisheries, communications and posts, energy production and distribution, navigable waters and public transport, tourism and historical monuments, mines and general administration. It was further agreed that all administrative agencies, bodies and offices other than those listed above should, in accordance with annex 1, section B, paragraph 3, of the Agreements, be subject to general supervision.

2. Civil administration activities in the provinces

39. Provincial headquarters have been established and are now operating in all 21 provinces, including the cities of Phnom Penh and Sihanoukville. The typical provincial headquarters comprises a Director, a Deputy Director, a Finance Officer and a Human Rights/Information Officer, together with support staff. As noted above, electoral officials, who work in close cooperation with civil administration personnel, have also been deployed in all provinces.

40. On 28 August 1992, UNTAC convened a meeting in Phnom Penh with the provincial governors appointed by the Phnom Penh authorities to discuss issues that had emerged in various provinces as a result of the supervision and control exercised by the UNTAC provincial directors. These included the right of non-CPP political parties to open offices in the zone controlled by the Phnom Penh authorities, land and property questions, freedom of movement and so on.

G. Civilian police component

41. Some 2,500 police officers have now been deployed out of the 3,600 provided for in the implementation plan. Arrangements for the deployment of more than half of the remaining police personnel are already in hand and consultations are being undertaken with Member States to ensure that the full authorized strength of the civilian police component is achieved as soon as possible.

42. In spite of this delay in its full deployment, the component has been able to extend its activities to all provinces. It has established a highly visible presence in Phnom Penh and at the provincial level, and is in the process of establishing police stations in the districts, as well as conducting regular patrols in the villages. It has a permanent presence in the zones of the FUNCINPEC and KPNLF in order to train and supervise their civilian police forces. At the press conference on 27 August mentioned above (para. 21), the PDK spokesman indicated that the party would send representatives to cooperate with UNTAC civilian police in seven Cambodian provinces. That cooperation has now begun.

43. The civilian police component works in close cooperation with the human rights, electoral, military, civil administration and repatriation components, and many of its activities have been referred to under those headings.

44. The component's duties also include directing the efforts of the local police force against the growing problem of banditry in the interior. In cooperation with the military component, it is discussing the supervision of checkpoints and patrols operated by the existing police forces in sensitive areas. A number of weapons have already been handed in to UNTAC civilian police monitors, who help to man UNTAC's border checkpoints.

45. In addition to his regular contacts with the Phnom Penh official responsible for public security, the UNTAC Police Commissioner also chairs a committee on traffic control with the participation of all parties except PDK. Since the arrival of UNTAC, the volume of traffic in Phnom Penh has greatly increased, causing congestion and confusion among drivers unaccustomed to heavy traffic. A number of accidents have occurred, and UNTAC's civilian police have introduced better training and traffic control procedures for police officers in the capital, as well as training courses for provincial police forces.

46. In addition to these substantive activities, the component's presence throughout the country supports the military component in "showing the flag" and assuring Cambodians of UNTAC's commitment to the peace process. The police presence, like that of the military, promotes the creation of a neutral political environment by making Cambodians aware that arbitrary abuse of power will not be tolerated. It was UNTAC civilian police officers, for example, who played a leading role in securing the release of Mr. Ieng Mouly, a KPNLF member of the Supreme National Council, when he was arrested in July by the police of the Phnom Penh authorities. On several occasions also, NADK members have presented themselves with their weapons to civilian police personnel.

H. Repatriation component

47. Since the repatriation exercise began on 30 March 1992, more than 115,000 Cambodian refugees and displaced persons have returned to their country under the auspices of UNTAC's repatriation component with the Office of the United Nations High Commissioner for Refugees (UNHCR) acting as the lead agency. This has been accomplished without any major incidents. Some 250,000 remain to be repatriated, less those who return spontaneously without UNTAC/UNHCR assistance. UNHCR is making every effort to advise refugees on the situation prevailing in their communes of final destination, particularly when they are unsafe or inaccessible.

48. After a relatively slow start, during which the country's absorption capacity was tested, the monthly rate of return has now risen to more than 30,000 and is expected to increase to as much as 40,000 during the coming dry season. Given this rate of return, the continuing cooperation of the Thai authorities and the increasing eagerness of the border population to return to their homeland, the likelihood that most returnees will be home in time to take part in the electoral process is very high. Repatriation is being carried out by air, road, rail and, especially during the current rainy season, by boat.

49. Despite efforts to diversify the options for the returnees - e.g., offering them cash instead of land and building materials - the shortage of available and safe land still gives rise to concern. The slow pace of mine-clearing and continuing disputes over the ownership of land contribute to this scarcity, which is compounded by the prevalence in some parts of the country of banditry and malaria. However, the search for land has now been extended to the centre and east of the country, which are proving quite promising. In July 1992 UNHCR signed with the non-governmental organization Handicap International an agreement that provides for the recruitment of Cambodian mine clearance personnel trained and supervised by UNTAC.

50. The speed of return is such that the three smaller camps on the border - O'Trao, Site K and Sok Sann - will be closed during October 1992. PDK has made no attempt to obstruct or interfere with the 35,000 or so persons who have returned to Cambodia from camps controlled by it. Indeed, PDK has in some respects been cooperative with the repatriation component of UNTAC.

UNHCR has also taken steps to address the security situation at the largest refugee camp, Site 2, which has suffered from chronic law-and-order problems.

51. While most returnees so far have been repatriated to areas administered by the Phnom Penh authorities, more than 6,000 have been transported directly, at their request, to the KPNLF zone and movements of returnees wishing to go to the FUNCINPEC zone will soon begin. As long as UNTAC has no free access to the PDK zone, there are no plans to transport and assist returnees there. However, some may be going there of their own accord.

I. Rehabilitation component

52. Shortly after the establishment of UNTAC in Cambodia, a Technical Advisory Committee of the Supreme National Council was set up under the chairmanship of the UNTAC Director of Rehabilitation in order to facilitate the approval of projects with the consensus of the four parties. PDK initially refused to cooperate with the work of the Technical Advisory Committee because it considered that many of the projects under consideration tended de facto to support the Phnom Penh authorities through balance-of-payments and budgetary support, to the detriment of the other parties. However, since the Tokyo Ministerial Conference on the Rehabilitation and Reconstruction of Cambodia held in June 1992, at which the international community pledged nearly $880 million in aid to Cambodia, PDK has adopted a more positive attitude.

53. UNTAC has always made clear that international aid would be applied under its general direction, and would be designed to improve the lives of all Cambodians irrespective of party affiliation. In this respect, it is guided by paragraph 11 of the proposal for discussion elaborated at the Tokyo Conference, which states:

> "It is a fundamental principle that multilateral assistance and budget support activities coordinated through UNTAC during the rehabilitation period shall be designated to the Supreme National Council and shall be disbursed when UNTAC can supervise the delivery or expenditure of money. In any United Nations documents referring to assistance or budget support for 'Cambodia' or for 'the Cambodian authorities', it is clearly understood that these terms refer to the whole territory of Cambodia or to the administrations of all Cambodian parties. It is also clearly understood that budgetary support to pay or subsidize the salaries of teachers, administrators, officials, health workers, etc., in 'Cambodia' is applicable according to need of the territory or administration controlled by each Cambodian Party."

The rehabilitation component is also guided by paragraph 12 of resolution 766 (1992).

54. At the Supreme National Council meeting of 16 July, UNTAC presented a list of 10 programmes totalling more than $187 million. The largest of these were the United Nations Children's Fund (UNICEF) programme of cooperation ($89 million), a three-year programme funded and executed by UNICEF and aimed at improving drinking water supply and sanitation, schools, health services and food security, as well as support for disadvantaged women and assistance to handicapped and disadvantaged children. The second major programme proposed was an aide-mémoire for an Asian Development Bank (AsDB) soft loan for $74.4 million covering projects in transport, power, agriculture and education. The four Cambodian parties supported 9 of the 10 proposed programmes, but PDK opposed borrowing from an international financial institution until such time as the issue of the role and powers of the Supreme National Council was resolved. In the event, all ten programmes were approved by the President of the Supreme National Council, in accordance with the powers granted to him under the Paris Agreements.

55. On 24 August 1992, the Supreme National Council approved seven other programmes with a total funding of over $15 million and on 10 September a further six totalling some $27 million.

56. The activities of the rehabilitation component are also guided by paragraph 9 of the Tokyo proposal for discussion, which reads as follows:

> "All foreign trade and investment agreements by all Cambodian parties shall be reported to the Supreme National Council secretariat and subject to UNTAC oversight in consultation with the Supreme National Council."

57. The attention of the Supreme National Council had been drawn to the problem of the overexploitation of Cambodia's natural resources. At its 7 May meeting, the Deputy Special Representative had pointed out that the rapid depletion of the country's timber stock and gem mines could not only have grave environmental consequences but could also affect the vital interests and the future of Cambodia in other ways. He invited the Supreme National Council to consider the possibility of establishing a mechanism for reviewing and examining the different contractual arrangements relating to the exploitation of natural resources.

58. Following the renewed attention given to this matter in the Tokyo proposal for discussion, the Supreme National Council decided on 23 July to set up another Technical Advisory Committee, also under the chairmanship of UNTAC's Director of Rehabilitation, to formulate and recommend to the Supreme National Council specific measures for dealing with the issue. The Technical Advisory Committee is now considering the merits of recommending to the Supreme National Council that it declare, inter alia, a country-wide moratorium on the export of logs from Cambodia.

J. Information/Education Division

59. The role of the Information/Education Division of UNTAC is to explain to Cambodians throughout the country the essence of the Paris Agreements and UNTAC's nature, objectives and activities. After two decades of fighting and international isolation, many Cambodians are little aware of the international community's efforts to assist their country. Many are sceptical about the applicability in Cambodia of basic concepts of human rights, including free and fair elections and multiparty political campaigning.

60. All four Cambodian Parties maintain their own broadcasting stations, each of which offers its audience a more or less one-sided version of current affairs. While the radio stations of three of the parties have cooperated with UNTAC by broadcasting information on the peace process and the United Nations role, the PDK radio has become increasingly hostile towards UNTAC and PDK has declined to broadcast UNTAC information and public awareness programmes.

61. The Division has undertaken a range of other activities to get its message across to Cambodians in all parts of the country and to counteract negative propaganda aimed at UNTAC. These include the production of audiovisual material in the Khmer language, which is distributed throughout the country by UNTAC military, police and civilian personnel.

62. The main vehicle for spreading the UNTAC message, however, is medium wave (AM) radio. Plans to acquire more equipment for producing UNTAC radio materials are now considerably advanced, and it is hoped that UNTAC's own broadcasting capacity will begin in October and reach its full operational potential by December. UNTAC plans to use one of the powerful transmitters of the Phnom Penh authorities as the core of its own operations beginning in October; but as that transmitter does not cover the entire country, relay transmitters for the provinces will be necessary. In the meantime, arrangements have been made with the Thai Foreign Ministry and Voice of America (VOA) for a VOA transmitter in Thailand to broadcast UNTAC materials at prime time twice daily.

63. The production of information is hampered by the language barrier. The great majority of Cambodians speak only Khmer, which requires the translation into that language of all information materials. Strenuous efforts are being made to identify and recruit properly qualified translators, but the number of these remains very limited.

64. The provision of information about UNTAC to Cambodians will continue to be important, particularly if PDK's non-cooperation continues. UNTAC will also have to ensure that all registered political parties have free access to the media and that detailed information is available to voters on the registration and voting procedures for the elections.

II. CONCLUSIONS AND RECOMMENDATIONS

65. UNTAC has made substantial strides towards its goals in the six months since its inception despite constraints imposed by the refusal of PDK to participate fully in the peace process, in particular the second phase of the cease-fire. Following the adoption of the electoral law, provisional registration of parties has begun and registration of voters is about to begin. Extensive military deployment across most of the country and a strong police presence extending to the village level have been established. More than 115,000 refugees and displaced persons have been safely repatriated. The international community has pledged $880 million to meet the essential rehabilitation needs of the country. Supervision and control over the existing administrative structures of three of the parties have been established and are being strengthened. UNTAC continues to inform Cambodians of their human rights and to foster the protection of those rights. All UNTAC's activities are becoming increasingly familiar to Cambodians throughout the country as a result of the information and public awareness campaign. UNTAC has thus acquired a powerful momentum that has enabled it to move ahead simultaneously on many fronts. Its presence has already had a profound and probably lasting impact on Cambodia. These achievements would not have been possible without the continuing support of the Security Council and the international community, the full cooperation of His Royal Highness Prince Sihanouk and the positive attitude and goodwill of the great majority of Cambodians.

66. Having carefully reviewed what UNTAC has accomplished so far, as well as the obstacles it has faced, I remain determined that the electoral process should be carried out in accordance with the timetable laid down in the implementation plan. While the attitude of PDK has limited implementation of the plan, UNTAC has consistently stressed that the door is still open to PDK to participate fully and constructively in the peace process and that the military component stands ready to undertake the cantonment of NADK forces. My Special Representative has also made it clear that, in accordance with the Paris Agreements, UNTAC must be given unhindered access to PDK-controlled areas and that all its components must be allowed to operate as required in those areas in order to discharge their respective functions.

67. Meanwhile, UNTAC will press forward with the implementation of all the provisions of the Paris Agreements, including those concerning the verification of the withdrawal and non-return of foreign forces and the cessation of outside military assistance to the Cambodian parties. This may require an increase in the number of checkpoints within the country and along its borders with one or more of the neighbouring countries, as well as appropriate modifications in the manning of those checkpoints and an updating of their terms of reference. More intensive military investigations and patrols may also be required.

68. That said, the persistent failure of the PDK to meet the obligations it assumed when it signed the Paris Agreements obstructs the full implementation of those Agreements. The present drift in the peace process cannot be allowed

to continue without seriously impairing UNTAC's ability to carry out its mandate within the time-frame set by the Security Council. It is clear that the time is approaching when some difficult decisions regarding ways and means of pursuing this operation will have to be seriously considered. Naturally such decisions should be taken only when the international community is satisfied that every effort to resolve the present difficulties has been made. UNTAC will therefore continue to work closely with the parties and the Supreme National Council to identify possible solutions within the framework of the Paris Agreements.

69. For UNTAC to achieve its objectives, the continuing support of the international community, particularly of neighbouring countries as called for in resolution 766 (1992), will be invaluable, not least in helping to communicate to the leadership of PDK the firm resolve of the United Nations that UNTAC should implement its mandate vigorously and to the full. The support of the Security Council itself is of special importance. The Council may wish to take further action to impress upon the parties the international community's firm determination to press ahead with the implementation of the settlement, so as to bring peace to Cambodia and enable the Cambodian people to look to a better and more stable future.

70. In this connection, I intend, subject to the approval of the Security Council, to request the co-Chairmen of the Paris Conference to undertake, within a definite time-frame, consultations as provided for by article 29 of the Paris Agreements. These consultations would be carried out in close cooperation with myself and my Special Representative, with the aim of finding a way out of the present impasse or, if that should prove impossible, exploring appropriate steps to ensure the realization of the fundamental objectives of the Paris Agreements.

Notes

1/ General Assembly resolution 2200 A (XXI), annex.

2/ General Assembly resolution 39/46, annex.

3/ General Assembly resolution 34/180, annex.

4/ General Assembly resolution 44/25, annex.

5/ United Nations, Treaty Series, vol. 189, No. 2545.

6/ United Nations, Treaty Series, vol. 606, No. 8791.